## What is claimed is:

1	1. A method, comprising:	
2	receiving data relating to a database system;	
3	receiving, from the device, information associated with at least one	
4	characteristic of the data;	
5	partitioning the data for storage in a database system having plural data	
6	storage units based on the characteristic associated with the data; and	
7	storing the partitioned data in one or more storage units of the database	
8	system.	
1	The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the information comprises	
2	receiving the information from a client system, the device comprising the client system	
2	receiving the information from a chefit system, the device comprising the chefit system	•
1	The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the information comprises	
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2	receiving at least one of an average value of the data, a uniform distribution of the data,	, a
3	minimum value of the data, and a maximum value of the data.	
1	4. The method of claim 3, wherein partitioning the data comprises defining	3
2	straight-line segments based on at least one of the average value of the data, the uniform	n
3	distribution of the data, the minimum value of the data, and the maximum value of the	
4	data.	
1	5. The method of claim 4, wherein partitioning the data further comprises	
2	defining breakpoints to provide the straight-line segments.	
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1 '	The method of claim 1, wherein partitioning the data for storage in the	
2	database system comprises dividing the data into segments containing related data.	

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1	<b>X</b> .	The method of claim 1, wherein partitioning the data comprises organizing		
2	the data into related portions.			
1	8.	The method of claim 7, wherein partitioning the data further comprises		
2	executing an	algorithm to organize the data.		
1	9.	The method of claim 1, wherein storing the partitioned data in the database		
2	system compr	ises storing the partitioned data in a relational database system.		
1	10.	The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the partitioned data		
2	under the sup	ervision of a limited number of data servers relating to the database system.		
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1	SUDY 11.	An apparatus, comprising:		
2	AS \	a database;		
3		a network interface;		
4		a database controller coupled to the database, wherein the database		
5	controller is a	dapted to receive partitioning information and perform a partitioning task		
6	on data receiv	red through the network interface based on the partitioning information,		
7		the database controller adapted to further store the data that is partitioned		
8	by the partitio	ning task, the partitioning task to identify one or more portions of the		
9	database in w	hich each segment of the partitioned data is stored.		
1	12.	The system of claim 11, wherein the database is a parallel database system.		

The system of claim 11, wherein the database is a relational database.

1	(ub) 14.	The system of claim 11, wherein the database controller comprises:	
2	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	a query coordinator coupled to the network interface, the query coordinator	
3	to receive que	ty requests from the network interface;	
4		a partitioner to partition data and perform at least one of storing and	
5	locating partit	ioned data in the database in response to the query requests; and	
6		a partitioner data storage coupled to the partitioner, the partitioner data	
7	storage to stor	re information associated with at least one characteristic of the data to	
8	enable the par	titioner to partition data.	
1	15.	The system of claim 14, wherein the partitioner is capable of executing an	
2	algorithm, based on the stored information, for partitioning the data.		
1	16.	The system of claim 15, further comprising a plurality of data servers to	
2	store and acce	ss partitioned data in the database.	
1	17.	The system of claim 11, further comprising a client system, wherein the	
2	client system s	sends data to the database through the network interface.	
1	SURVEZ 18.	The system of claim 17, wherein the client system sends at least one	
2		of the data to be used by the database controller to partition the data.	
1	19.	An article comprising one or more storage media containing instructions	
2	that when exe	suted cause a device to:	
3		receive information associated with at least one characteristic of data to be	
4	stored into a d	atabase from a remote device;	
5		partition the data for storage in a database system based on the	
6	characteristic	of the data; and	
7		store the partitioned data in the database system.	
1	20.	The article of claim 19, wherein the instructions when executed cause the	
2	device to exec	cute an algorithm to partition the data.	

- 1 2. The article of claim 19, wherein the instructions when executed cause the
- 2 device to divide the data into segments containing related data.